

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO RECOGNIZE NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY
VALUE OF KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE AND ITS C-130 TACTICAL AIRLIFT MISSION AND TO PRESERVE AND RETAIN
THAT MISSION AT KEESLER DURING CURRENT FISCAL RE-ORGANIZATION**

WHEREAS, Keesler Air Force Base plays an essential role in the defense and security of our nation through its numerous technical and operational training programs, including its C-130 Tactical Airlift Missions;

WHEREAS, it has been noted that the Department of Defense is in the process of reorganizing its military missions and may be looking at the C-130 Tactical Airlift Mission Keesler Air Force Base; and,

WHEREAS, for many years Keesler Air Force Base has been the leading center in the nation for training of personnel for technical, tactical, and operational purposes, and continues to assist the nation in the defense of its national security both at home and abroad through cyber-training programs, its C-130 Tactical Airlift Mission, other flight mission programs, and logistical and operational training programs; and,

WHEREAS, the C-130 Tactical Airlift Mission is strategically located at Keesler because of its proximity to other related training and operational programs at Keesler, and should be recognized as an important and integral part of the overall defense contribution of Keesler Air Force Base; and,

WHEREAS, Keesler Air Force Base is a vital part of the economic fabric of the of Gulf Coast and its personnel have become essential partners in local communities, but more importantly, it's mission such as the C-130 Tactical Airlift Mission have become a cornerstone of the national defense and security structure that protects and defends our nation; and,

WHEREAS, as recognition of the importance and quality of the missions and personnel located there at Keesler Air Force Base was awarded the 2013 Air Force Installation Excellence Award; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of our Nation to protect and preserve both the missions and personnel located and stationed at this outstanding Air Force Base during this current round of re-organization by the Department of Defense by retaining the C-130 Tactical Airlift Mission at Keesler Air Force Base;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD, MISSISSIPPI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION ONE. The United States Department of Defense is hereby requested and urged to preserve and retain the C-130 Tactical Airlift Mission and personnel at Keesler Air Force because of their critical and

essential role in the security and defense of our Nation, and, if programs and personnel within the Defense Department structure must be relocated or re-aligned, those programs and personnel should be transferred to rather than from Keesler Air Force Base, which is currently recognized by the Air Force itself with its award for the highest quality facility and operation.

SECTION TWO. The Clerk of Council is hereby directed to send certified copies of this resolution to the members of the Mississippi Congressional Delegation, thereby requesting them to represent the best interest of both the Nation and the people of Mississippi by urging the Department of Defense to preserve and retain the C-130 Tactical Airlift Mission and personnel at Keesler Air Force Base.

The foregoing Resolution having first been reduced to writing, was read by the Clerk and moved by Councilmember _____, seconded by Councilmember _____, and was adopted by the following vote:

	AYES:	NAYS:	ABSENT
Councilmember Lopez	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember LaFontaine	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Rech	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Sislow	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Knobloch	_____	_____	_____
Mayor Schafer	_____	_____	_____

Mayor Thomas Schafer, IV then declared the Resolution adopted this the 3rd day of June, 2014.

SEAL

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Kristin Ventura, City Clerk

Mayor Thomas Schafer, IV